

Message Text

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21

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-07

FCC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 COME-00 BIB-01 ACDA-10

DODE-00 PM-03 NASA-02 NSC-05 OES-05 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 CU-04 /082 W

----- 019247

R 131940Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5653

UNCLAS LA PAZ 1100

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, ETEL, INTERSAT, BL

SUBJECT: EARLY WARNING: BOLIVIAN INTENTIONS PURCHASE SATELLITE

GROUND STATION AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

REF: A LA PAZ A-52 MARCH 18, 1974

B. STATE 282241 DEC. 27, 1974

1. NEW MANAGER OF GOB STATE COMMUNICATIONS ENTERPRISE ENTEL, COL. FEDERICO PAZ(LORA) DETERMINED TO MOVE AHEAD WITH SEVERAL MAJOR COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS. ENTEL HAS RECEIVED GOB APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH PURCHASE OF SATELLITE GROUND STATION. STUDIES GOING FORWARD TO ESTABLISH MICROWAVE COMMUNICATIONS WITH SUCRE, TARIJA, AND POTOSI AND TO PURCHASE AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE SWITCHING EQUIPMENT TO LINK WITH LOCAL TELEPHONE SYSTEMS SOON TO BE COMPLETED MICROWAVE SYSTEM CONNECTING LA PAZ, ORURO, COCHABAMBA, AND SANTA CRUZ. BEING FINANCED BY IDB AND U.K.

2. MOST IMMEDIATE PROJECT IS GROUND STATION. PAZ (LORA) BELIEVES THAT BIDS WILL BE CALLED FOR IN MARCH. HE HOPES THAT PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED WITHIN TWENTY MONTHS IN AMPLE TIME FOR TRANSMISSION OF BOLIVIAN GAMES FROM LA PAZ IN OCTOBER, 1977.

(NOTE CORRECTION FROM REFAIRGRAM A.) BOLIVIA ACCEDED TO INTELSAT

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AGREEMENT IN DECEMBER, 1974 (SEE REFTTEL B.) PAZ (LORA)

OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ARRANGING FINANCING FOR PROJECT FROM CORPORACION ANDINA DE FOMENTO (CAF), BUT MIGHT IN FACT END UP SEEKING SUPPLIER CREDITS. ACTION REQUESTED: ENTEL CLAIMS NOT TO HAVE CURRENT COMSAT RATES. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ABLE TO MAKE PRESENTATION AND ASKS USDOC TO FORWARD THIS INFORMATION.

3. OTHER TWO PROJECTS STILL IN STUDY STAGE. GOB COMMUNICATION MINISTER, HOWEVER, HAS ANNOUNDED PUBLICLY DECISION TO PROCEED WITH MICROWAVE TO SUCRE, TARIJA, AND POTOSI. PAZ (LORA) STATES THAT ENTEL HAS DECIDED THAT TELEPHONE SWITCHING WILL BE AUTOMATIC AND NOT SEMI-AUTOMATIC AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED. U.K. FIRM (GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY) DUE TO COMPLETE LA PAZ TO SANTA CRUZ MICROWAVE LINK IN DECEMBER 1975.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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